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REMARKS

Applicants have amended claim 6 by inserting a period at the end, as noted by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully and strongly contend that the rejection should be withdrawn in that the Examiner is mistaken in stating in the 4/16/2004 Office Action of Record that "As shown in figure 3 of the DE '926 reference labeled above the load bearing member outer resilient member unbonded outer surface is axially inwardly tapered in a direction from the first chamber mouth to the first chamber seat end." On the attached copies of page 8 (Copy A Page 8) (Copy B Page 8) (Copy C Page 8) (Copy D Page 8) of the 4/16/2004 Office Action of Record, Applicants point out this error. The "Load bearing member unbonded outer surface" pointed to by the Examiner in figure 3 of the DE '926 is outwardly tapered in the direction from the "1st chamber mouth" towards the "1st chamber seat end", because in that downward direction the surface taper points out away from the center axis towards the outside of the mount.

As shown in (Copy A Page 8), the "Load bearing member unbonded outer surface" of figure 3 of the DE '926 is outwardly tapered in the direction from the "1st chamber mouth" towards the "1st chamber seat end". Also as shown in (Copy A Page 8), the "Rebound member unbonded outer surface" of figure 3 of the DE '926 is outwardly tapered in the upward direction from the "2nd chamber mouth" towards the "2nd chamber seat end".

As shown in (Copy B Page 8), the "Load bearing member unbonded outer surface" pointed to by the Examiner in FIG. 3 of the Instant Application is outwardly tapered in the downward direction from the "1st chamber mouth" towards the "1st chamber seat end". Also as shown in (Copy B Page 8), the "Rebound member unbonded outer surface" pointed to by the Examiner in FIG. 3 of the Instant Application is outwardly tapered in the upward direction from the "2nd chamber

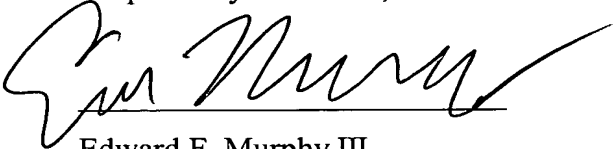
mouth” towards the “2nd chamber seat end” . These outwardly tapered unbonded surfaces pointed to by the Examiner are not the claimed inwardly tapered unbonded outer surfaces.

As shown in (Copy C Page 8), the claimed inwardly tapered load bearing member unbonded outer surface, which is inwardly tapered in the downward direction from the from the “1st chamber mouth” towards the “1st chamber seat end” , is not the “Load bearing member unbonded outer surface” pointed to by the Examiner. Also as shown in (Copy C Page 8), the claimed inwardly tapered rebound member unbonded outer surface, which is inwardly tapered in the upward direction from the “2nd chamber mouth” towards the “2nd chamber seat end” is not the “Rebound member unbonded outer surface” pointed to by the Examiner.

As clearly shown in (Copy D Page 8), the enlarged view of the figures of Page 8 , the “Load bearing member unbonded outer surface” pointed to by the Examiner in figure 3 of the DE ‘926 is clearly outwardly tapered as highlighted with arrows, which is the opposite of the claimed inwardly tapered unbonded outer surfaces as highlighted with arrows. Also as shown in (Copy D Page 8) the “Rebound member unbonded outer surface” pointed to by the Examiner in figure 3 of the DE ‘926 is clearly outwardly tapered as highlighted with arrows, which is the opposite of the claimed inwardly tapered unbonded outer surfaces as highlighted with arrows in FIG. 3 of the Instant Application.

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance in that the Examiner pointed to unbonded surfaces of the figure 3 DE ‘926 Reference are outwardly tapered in the directions from the mouths to the seat ends. The claimed invention is not disclosed or rendered obvious by the figure 3 DE ‘926 Reference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Murphy", written over a horizontal line.

Edward F. Murphy III

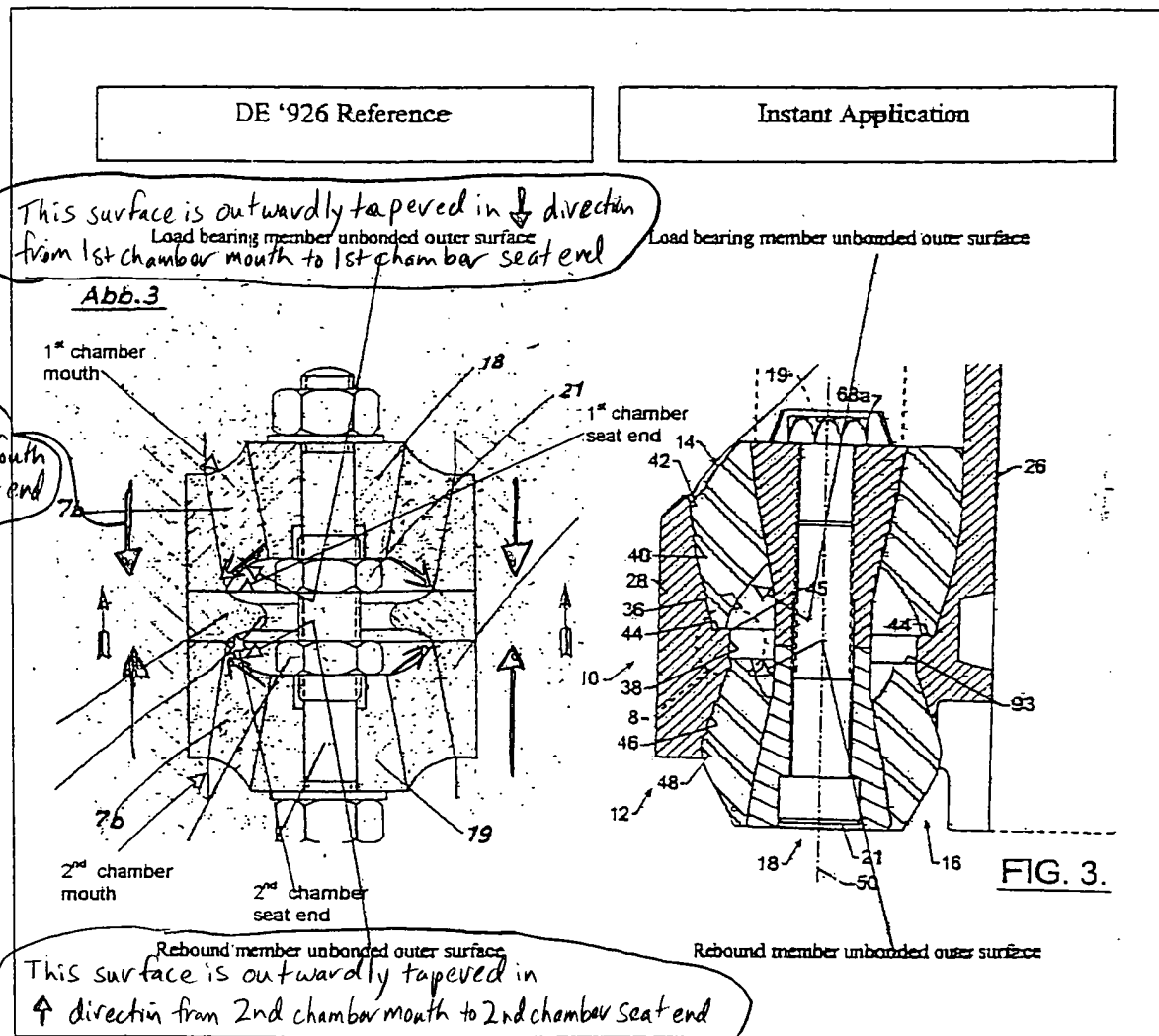
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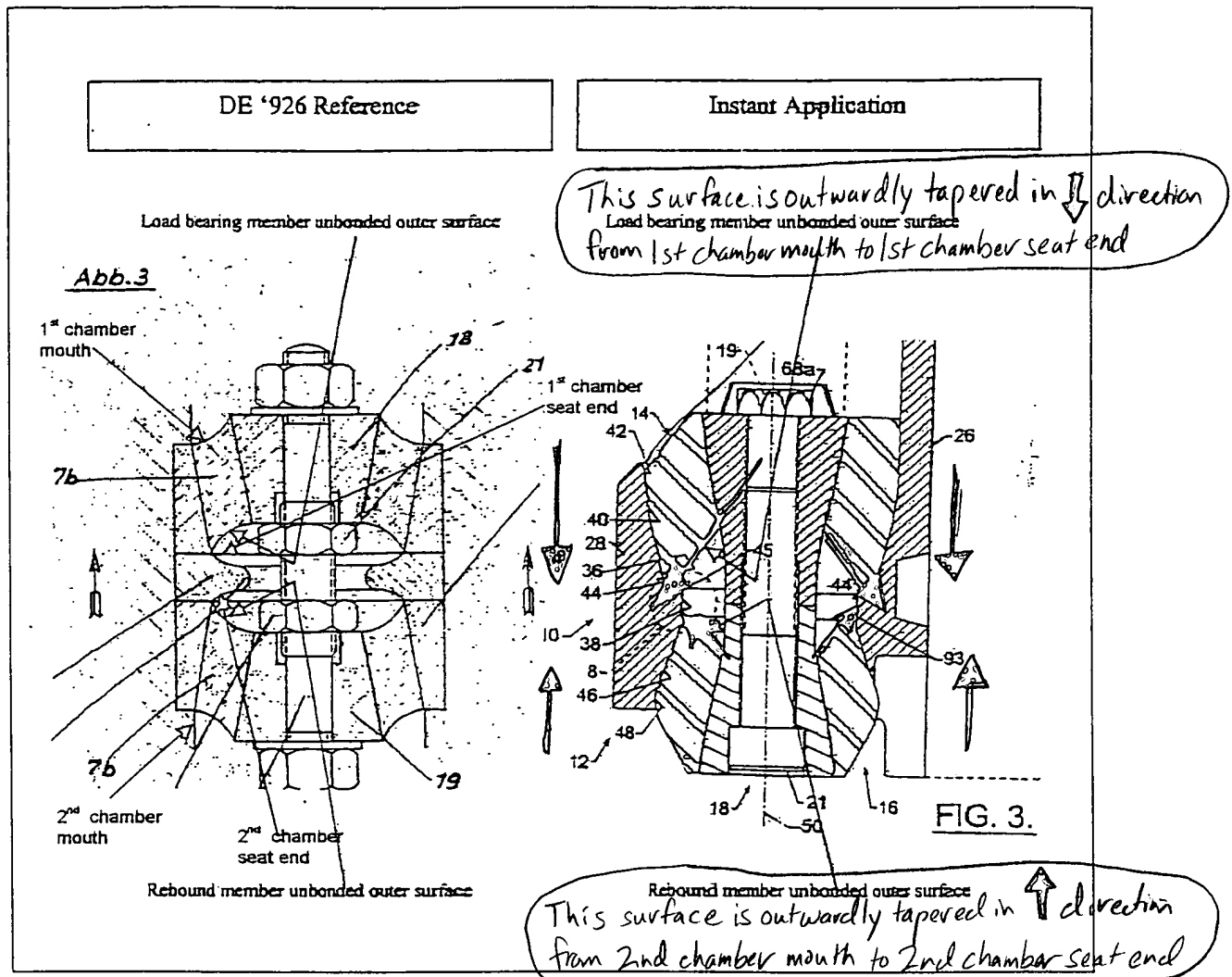
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Art Unit: 3683



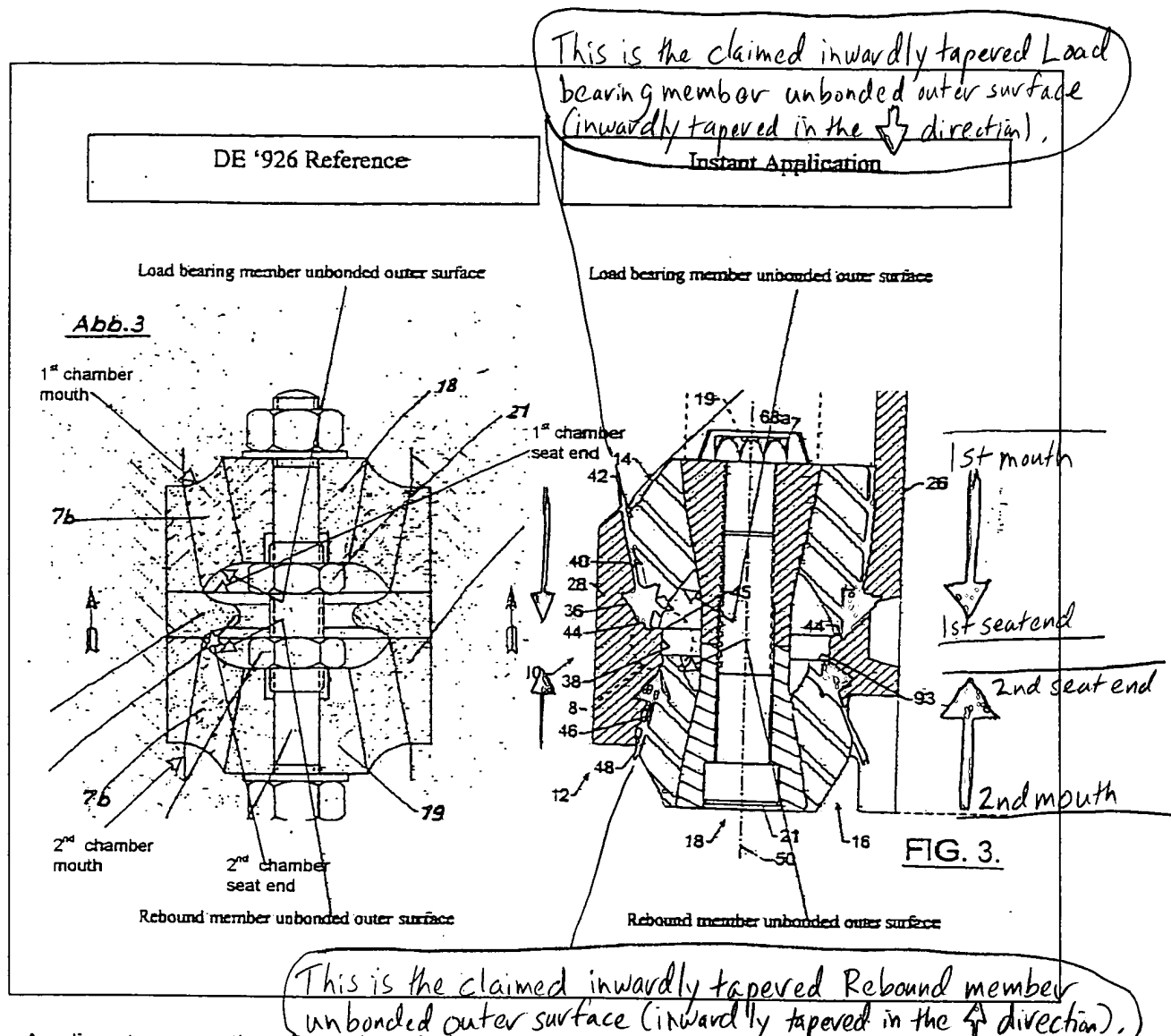
Copy A
Page 8



Applicant argues that the unbonded outer surfaces of DE '926 are outwardly tapered in the direction of the mouth to the seat end. Examiner disagrees. As shown in figure 3 of the DE '926 reference labeled above the load bearing member outer resilient member unbonded outer surface is axially inwardly tapered in a direction from the first chamber mouth to the first chamber seat end. Similarly, the rebound member outer resilient member unbonded outer surface is axially inwardly tapered in a direction from the



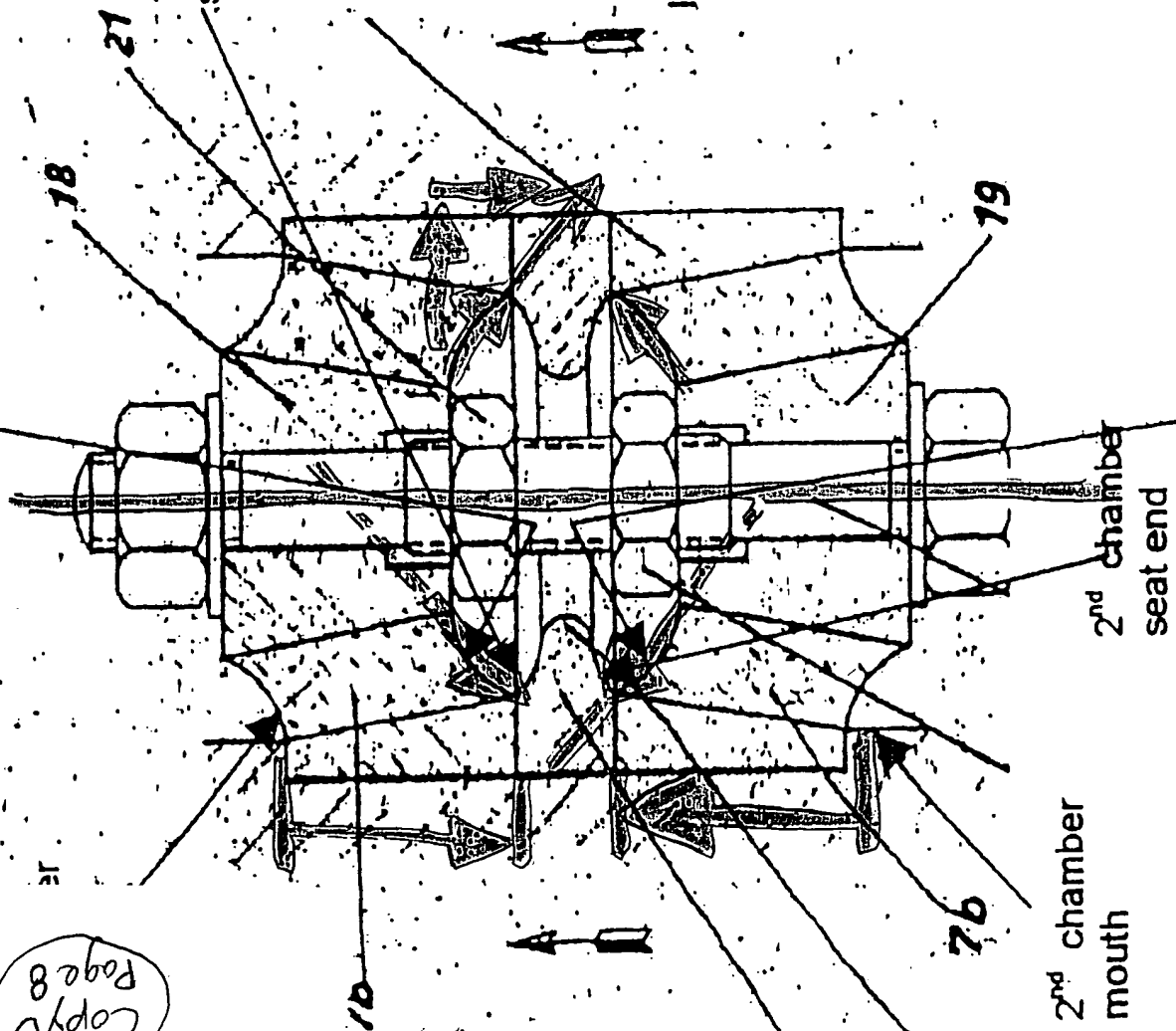
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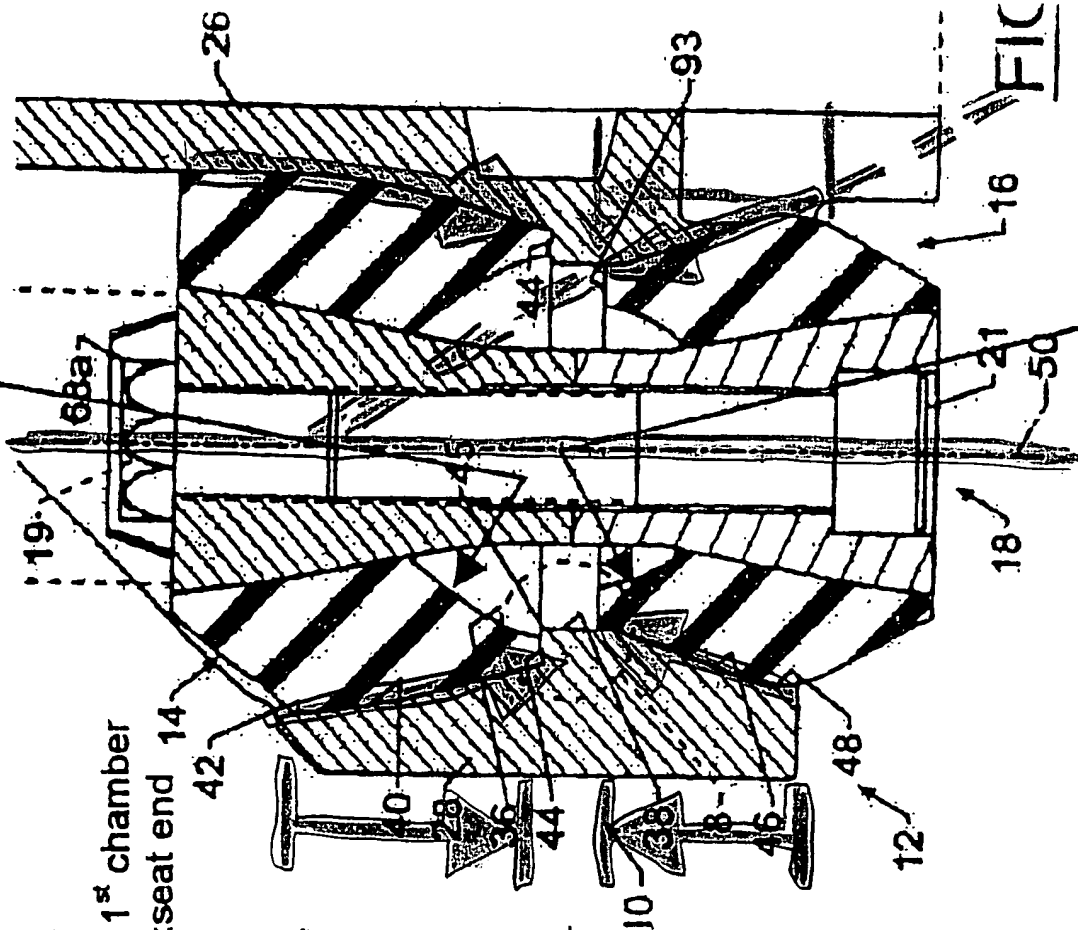
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Load bearing member unbonded outer surface
(This surface is outwardly tapered, not inwardly)



Rebound member unbonded outer surface
(This surface is outwardly tapered)

★ Load bearing member unbonded outer surface★
(This surface is outwardly tapered, so this is not the inwardly tapered surface being claimed)★

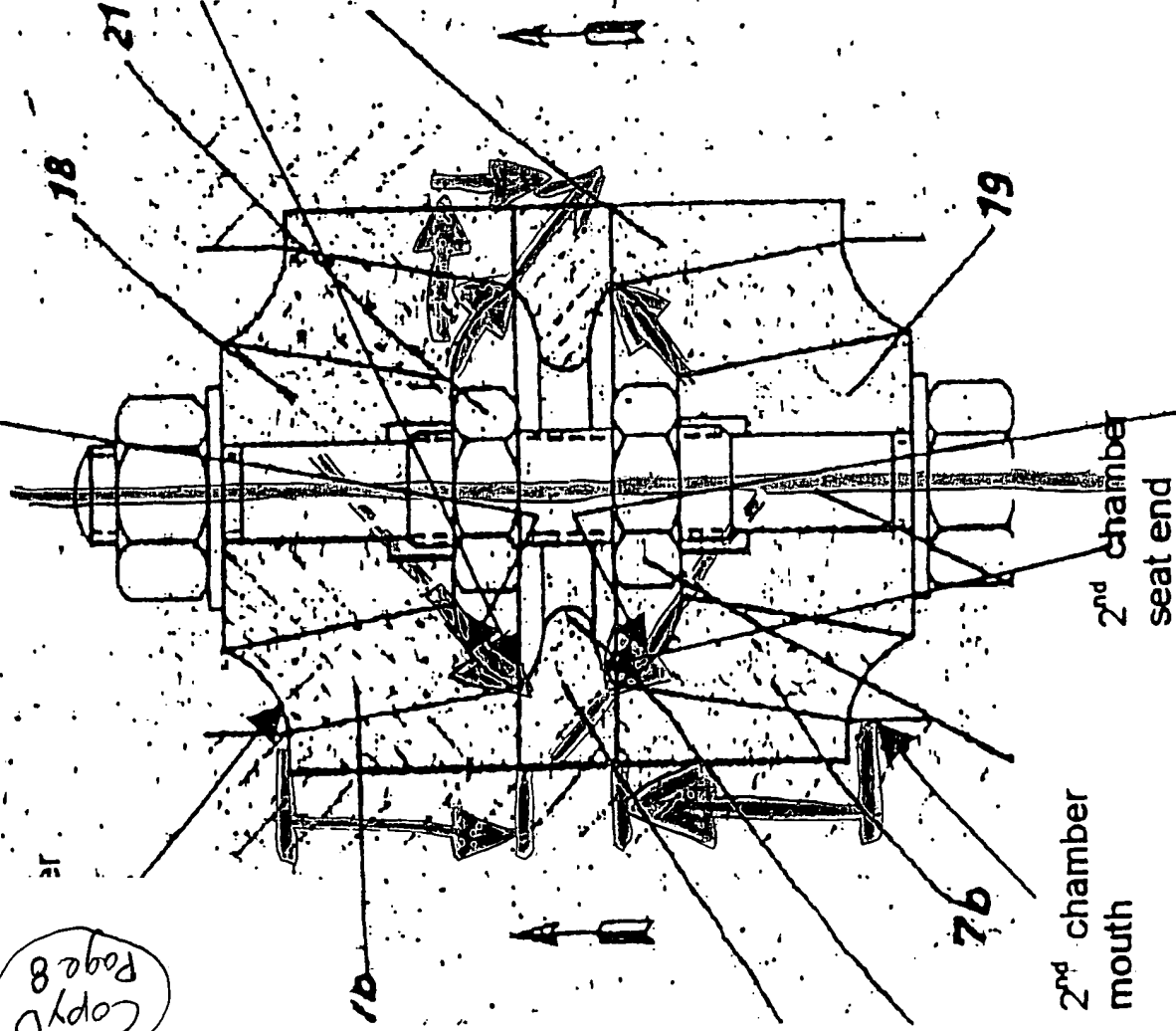


Rebound member unbonded outer surface
(This surface is outwardly tapered)

Load bearing member unbonded outer surface
(This surface is outwardly tapered, not inwardly)

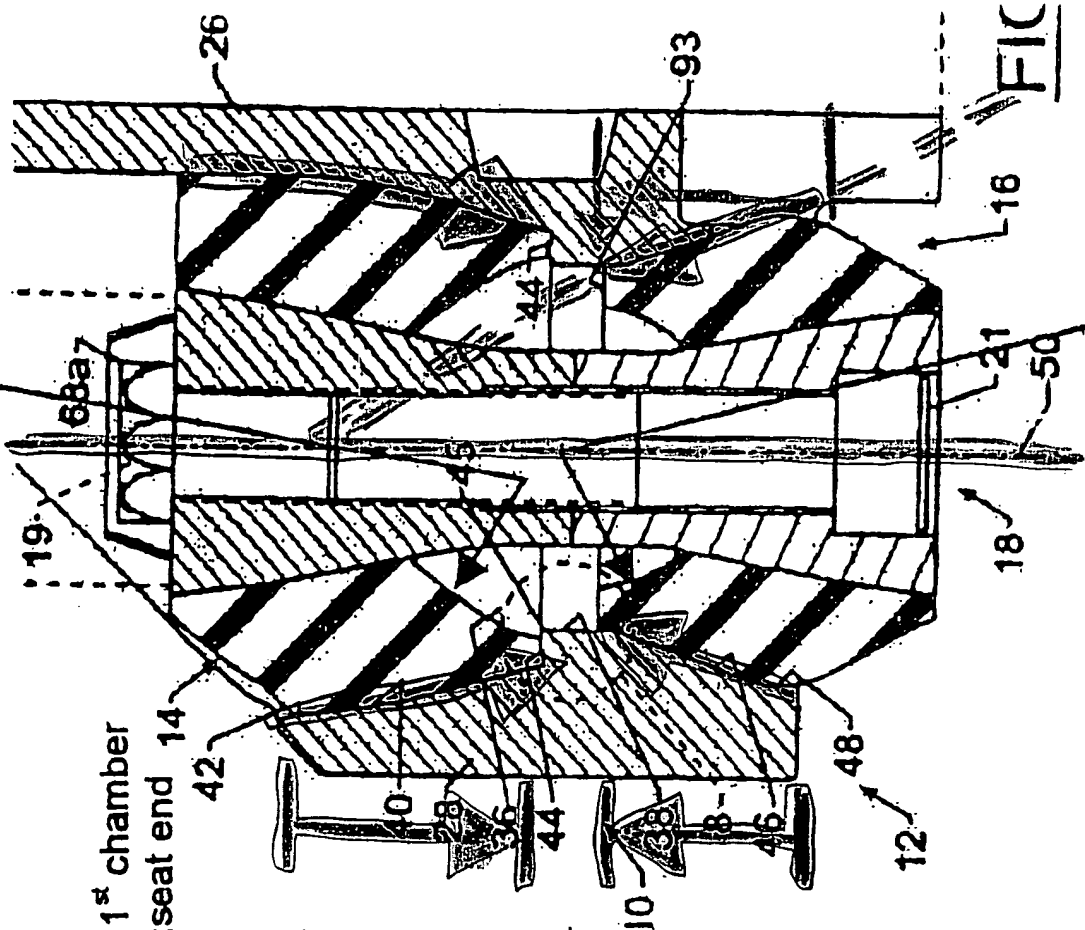
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Copy 8



Rebound member unbonded outer surface
(This surface is outwardly tapered)

★ Load bearing member unbonded outer surface★
(This surface is outwardly tapered, so this is not the inwardly tapered surface being claimed)★



Rebound member unbonded outer surface
(This surface is outwardly tapered)